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E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/13/2016

TAGS: <u>PREL UN UNMIK PGOV YI EU HR REGIONAL ISSUES</u> SUBJECT: KOSOVO STATUS NEGOTIATIONS - CROATIAN VIEW

REF: A. STATE 136492 \*\*B. STATE 59894

Classified By: Political Officer Tom Selinger for reasons 1.4 (b) & (d) .

- 11. (U) Post briefed MFA contacts on reftel points on August 22 and 28. Asst MFA for EU and NATO Member States Neven Pelicaric told Charge at time that the GoC appreciated the USG's continued engagement on this sensitive issue.
- 12. (C) COMMENT: While PM Sanader has made repeated media comments that the Serbian Government must have a voice in determining Kosovo's final status, MFA's Kosovo desk officer Dino Mihanovic assured PolOff that these statements were exclusively for Belgrade's ears. The GoC and the Croatian public would welcome an independent Kosovo, he said, though they share concerns that this not be misused as a precedent for Republika Srbska in BiH. END COMMENT. BRADTKE